Mayor wants stop sign on Bower Avenue

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

A proposal for an all-way stop on Bower Avenue and heavy truck bans on some streets during reconstruction of Mill Street will be debated at the May 3 Council meeting, after a Notice of Motion from Mayor Rick Bonnette, who was on holiday, was tabled at the Monday Council meeting for future debate.

Bonnette's Notice of Motion asks staff to install an all-way stop at the intersection of Bower Avenue and Alice Street to control traffic that will be diverted from Mill Street during the road reconstruction this summer.

The motion also asks for a temporary bylaw, with an August 31, 2004 expiry date, to allow the Town to ban heavy traffic, if needed, on Bower Avenue, Willow Street North, St. Alban's Drive, River Street, Church Street East and Eastern Avenue, between Mill and Church Streets.

In response to an earlier request for an all-way stop sign Town staff said the amount of traffic using Bower Avenue daily did not warrant a stop sign.

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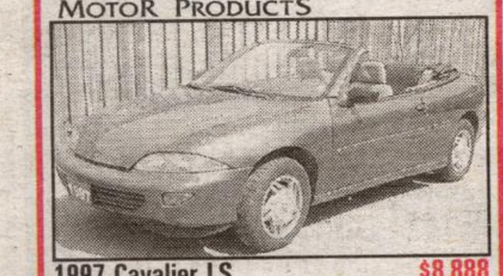
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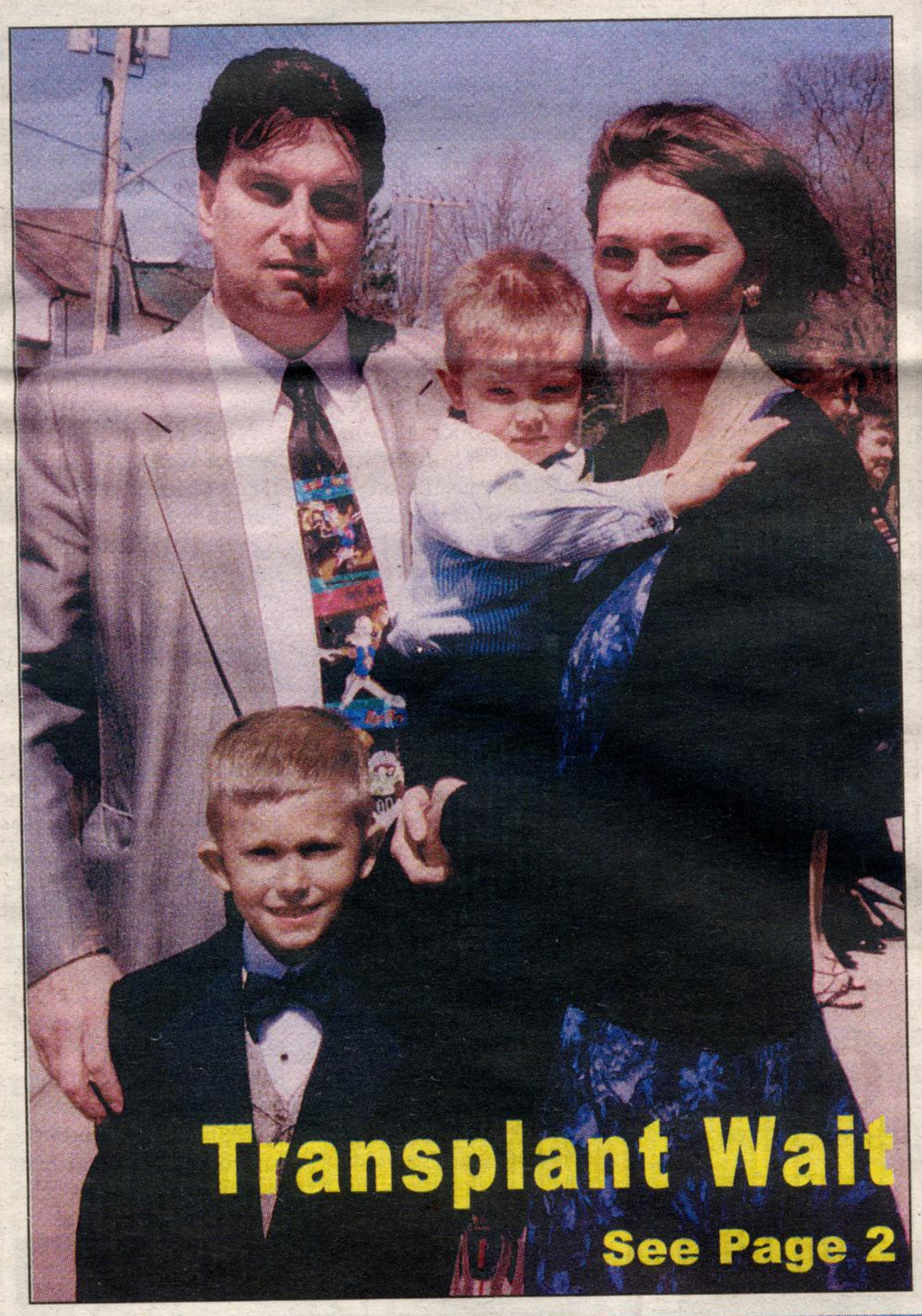
Brutal armed robbery investigated



By FRANCES NIBLOCK
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When an Acton convenience store owner wasn't fast enough handing over cash to two armed thugs, they beat him, and continued beating him even when he told them to take the money from his till in Lakeview Convenience just after 10 on Saturday night.

The victim, who police did not name, suffered a broken hand and cuts and bruises to the head in the attack. His wife, who witnessed part of the attack, was also hit on the head with the handgun when she tried to come to her husband's aid.

Both were taken to hospital, treated and released.

Halton police report the male store owner was alone when two males, one armed with a handgun and the other with a billy club, entered the Main Street North store and demanded cash.

The woman, upstairs in their apartment, noticed that something was wrong on a video camera, and raced down to help to find the two suspects beating her husband behind the counter.

The woman said the suspect armed with the gun hit her over the head, leaving a large bump and a bruise under her eye.

Police said both suspects then ran on foot towards Fairy Lake and through some local backyards, where they disappeared, despite a search by Halton's K-9 unit.

Halton Detective Sergeant Don Cousens said the K-9 team had "limited success," refusing to say more than "there's stuff that we gained – evidence that we are looking at."

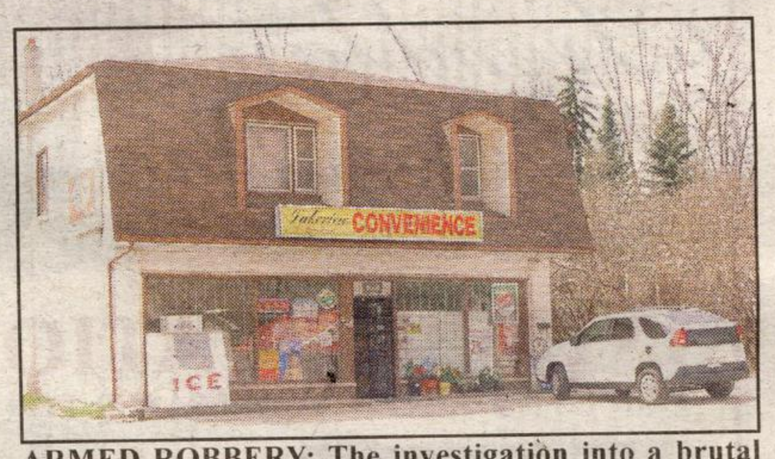
Both suspects are described as "young and skinny" by the store owners. The first suspect, who was armed with the gun, is a six-foot-tall white male, wearing sunglasses, a mask and hat. He was wearing a black and red plaid lumberjack jacket with khaki pants, and gloves.

The second suspect is a white male, wearing sunglasses and a hat with earflaps. He was wearing gloves.

Detective Sergeant Cousens said anyone faced with a similar circumstance should hand over the money to thieves to avoid a further confrontation with potential injuries and violence.

"Comply and turn over the money. Money can always be replaced," he said.

Anyone with information should call Halton detective Bob Andrews at 905-878-5511 ext. 2106, or anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.



ARMED ROBBERY: The investigation into a brutal armed robbery at Lakeview Convenience on Main Street North on Saturday night continues. The owner was pistol-whipped and beaten with a billy club by two masked men. – *Ted Tyler photo*

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